

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 22, 2007. Claims 1-8, 10-15 and 17-21 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 20 and 21 are in independent form. Claim 16 has been canceled, and its recitations incorporated into its base Claim 10; corresponding method recitations have been added to Claim 20; these changes are made without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. The dependency of Claims 17-19 has been changed accordingly. Claims 8 and 21 have been amended to be directed to a computer-readable medium rather than to a program. Claims 9 and 22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and will not be mentioned further. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-7, and the indication that Claims 16-19 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim. Since as noted the recitations of Claim 16 are now present in Claims 10, 20 and 21, those two claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, along with the claims depending from Claim 10.

Claims 8 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Those claims have been reworded as shown above, and are believed now to conform to current PTO practice. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all the claims in this application are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Leonard P Diana/
Leonard P. Diana
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 29,296

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCHS_WS 1720528v1